

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 (cancelled).

21. (New) An apparatus forming a bundling tie, said bundling tie being capable of both being securely attached to a single portion of a workpiece at a first tie loop and easily connected and disconnected about a bundle formed of multiple workpiece portions at a second tie loop, comprising:

at least one tab;

at least one strand connected to said at least one tab and having a flexible portion with a plurality of interlock features at spaced positions along the flexible portion;

a first locking slot formed through said at least one tab, said first locking slot having a first enlarged opening through which said at least one strand and interlock features may pass and a first reduced opening conjoined to the first enlarged opening so as to allow the at least one strand to be moved from the first enlarged opening to the first reduced opening, said first reduced opening being smaller than said first enlarged opening and sized to prevent said plurality of interlock features from being pulled therethrough when the strand is positioned into the first reduced opening to form said first tie loop;

a second locking slot formed through said at least one tab, said second locking slot having a first enlarged opening through which said at least one strand and interlock features may pass and a second reduced opening conjoined to the second enlarged opening so as to allow the at least one strand to be moved from the second enlarged opening to the second reduced opening, said second reduced opening being smaller than said second enlarged opening and sized to prevent said plurality of interlock features from being pulled therethrough when the strand is positioned into the second reduced opening to form said second tie loop;

wherein said first and second locking slots are oriented in the at least one tab such that the first and second reduced openings are positioned toward a connection between the at least one strand and the at least one tab.

22. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21 and further comprising a hanging hole in said at least one tab.

23. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21 and further comprising a hanging hole in said at least one tab positioned opposite from said at least one strand.

24. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21 and further comprising a handle connected to said at least one tab.

25. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21 and further comprising a handle connected to said at least one tab opposite from said at least one strand.

26. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21 and further comprising:

- a hanging hole in said at least one tab;
- a handle connected to said at least one tab.

27. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21 and further comprising:

- a hanging hole in said at least one tab opposite from said at least one strand;
- a handle connected to said at least one tab opposite from said at least one strand.

28. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21 and wherein said plurality of interlock features has a first section of interlock features proximate to said at least one tab and a second section of interlock features which are relatively distal from said at least one tab when compared to said first section of interlock features.

29. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21 and wherein said plurality of interlock features has a first section of interlock features proximate to said at least one tab and a second section of interlock features which are relatively distal from said at least one tab when compared to said first section of interlock features, said first section of interlock features being spaced more closely together than said second section of interlock features.

30. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21 and further comprising a tool holder connected to said at least one tab for holding a tool.

31. (New) An apparatus forming a bundling tie, said bundling tie being capable of both being securely attached to a single portion of a workpiece at a first tie loop and easily connected and disconnected about a bundle formed of multiple workpiece portions at a second tie loop, comprising:

at least one tab;

at least one strand connected to said at least one tab and having a flexible portion with a plurality of interlock features at spaced positions along the flexible portion; said plurality of interlock features having a first section of interlock features proximate to said at least one tab and a second section of interlock features which are relatively distal from said at least one tab, said first section of interlock features being spaced more closely together than said second section of interlock features;

a first locking slot formed through said at least one tab, said first locking slot having a first enlarged opening through which said at least one strand and first section of interlock features may pass and a first reduced opening conjoined to the first enlarged opening so as to allow the at least one strand to be moved from the first enlarged opening to the first reduced opening, said first reduced opening being smaller than said first enlarged opening and sized to prevent said first section of interlock features from being pulled therethrough when the strand is positioned into the first reduced opening to form said first tie loop;

a second locking slot formed through said at least one tab, said second locking slot having a first enlarged opening through which said at least one strand and second section of interlock features may pass and a second reduced opening conjoined to the second enlarged opening so as to allow the at least one strand to be moved from the second enlarged opening to the second reduced opening, said second reduced opening being smaller than said second enlarged opening and sized to prevent said second section of interlock features from being pulled therethrough when the strand is positioned into the second reduced opening to form said second tie loop;

wherein said first and second locking slots are oriented in the at least one tab such that the first and second reduced openings are positioned toward a connection between the at least one strand and the at least one tab;

a hanging hole in said at least one tab positioned opposite from said at least one strand.

32. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31 and wherein:
the first locking slot has a first necked down portion between the first enlarged opening and the first reduced opening;
the second locking slot has a second necked down portion between the second enlarged opening and the second reduced opening;
said first necked down portion engages the strand tighter than said second necked down portion engages the strand.

33. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31 and further comprising a handle connected to said at least one tab opposite from said at least one strand.

34. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31 and further comprising a tool holder connected to said at least one tab for holding a tool.

35. (New) An apparatus forming a bundling tie, said bundling tie being capable of both being securely attached to a portion of a workpiece at a first tie loop and easily connected and disconnected about a bundle formed of multiple workpiece portions at a second tie loop, comprising:

at least one strand having a flexible portion with a plurality of interlock features at spaced positions along the flexible portion;

at least one interlock portion connected to the at least one strand;

a first locking slot formed in said at least one interlock portion; said first locking slot having a first enlarged opening through which said at least one strand and interlock features may pass and a first reduced opening conjoined to the first enlarged opening so as to allow the at least one strand to be moved from the first enlarged opening to the first reduced opening, said first reduced opening being smaller than said first enlarged opening and sized to prevent said plurality of interlock features from being pulled therethrough when the strand is positioned into the first reduced opening to form said first tie loop;

a second locking slot formed through said at least one interlock portion, said second locking slot having a first enlarged opening through which said at least one strand and said at least one interlock portion may pass and a second reduced opening conjoined to the second enlarged opening so as to allow the at least one strand to be moved from the second enlarged opening to the second

reduced opening, said second reduced opening being smaller than said second enlarged opening and sized to prevent said plurality of interlock features from being pulled therethrough when the strand is positioned into the second reduced opening to form said second tie loop;

wherein said first and second locking slots are oriented in the at least one interlock portion such that the first and second reduced openings are positioned toward a connection between the at least one strand and the at least one interlock portion.

36. (New) An apparatus according to claim 35 and further comprising a hanging hole in said at least one interlock portion.

37. (New) An apparatus according to claim 35 and further comprising a hanging hole in said at least one interlock portion positioned opposite from said at least one strand.

38. (New) An apparatus according to claim 35 and further comprising a handle connected to said at least one interlock portion.

39. (New) An apparatus according to claim 35 and further comprising a handle connected to said at least one interlock portion opposite from said at least one strand.

40. (New) An apparatus according to claim 35 and further comprising:

a hanging hole in said at least one interlock portion;

a handle connected to said at least one interlock portion.

41. (New) An apparatus according to claim 35 and further comprising:

a hanging hole in said at least one interlock portion opposite from said at least one strand;

a handle connected to said at least one interlock portion opposite from said at least one strand.

42. (New) An apparatus according to claim 35 and wherein said plurality of interlock features has a first section of interlock features proximate to said at least one interlock portion and a second section of interlock features

which are relatively distal from said at least one interlock portion when compared to said first section of interlock features.

43. (New) An apparatus according to claim 35 and wherein said plurality of interlock features has a first section of interlock features proximate to said at least one interlock portion and a second section of interlock features which are relatively distal from said at least one interlock portion when compared to said first section of interlock features, said first section of interlock features being spaced more closely together than said second section of interlock features.

44. (New) An apparatus according to claim 35 and further comprising a tool holder connected to said at least one interlock portion for holding a tool.

45. (New) An apparatus forming a bundling tie, said bundling tie being capable of both being securely attached to a single portion of a workpiece at a first tie loop and easily connected and disconnected about a bundle formed of multiple workpiece portions at a second tie loop, comprising:

at least one interlock portion;

at least one strand connected to said at least one interlock portion and having a flexible portion with a plurality of interlock features at spaced positions along the flexible portion; said plurality of interlock features having a first section of interlock features proximate to said at least one interlock portion and a second section of interlock features which are relatively distal from said at least one interlock portion, said first section of interlock features being spaced more closely together than said second section of interlock features

a first locking slot formed through said at least one interlock portion, said first locking slot having a first enlarged opening through which said at least one strand and first section of interlock features may pass and a first reduced opening conjoined to the first enlarged opening so as to allow the at least one strand to be moved from the first enlarged opening to the first reduced opening, said first reduced opening being smaller than said first enlarged opening and sized to prevent said first section of interlock features from being pulled

therethrough when the strand is positioned into the first reduced opening to form said first tie loop;

a second locking slot formed through said at least one interlock portion, said second locking slot having a first enlarged opening through which said at least one strand and second section of interlock features may pass and a second reduced opening conjoined to the second enlarged opening so as to allow the at least one strand to be moved from the second enlarged opening to the second reduced opening, said second reduced opening being smaller than said second enlarged opening and sized to prevent said second section of interlock features from being pulled therethrough when the strand is positioned into the second reduced opening to form said second tie loop;

wherein said first and second locking slots are oriented in the at least one interlock portion such that the first and second reduced openings are positioned toward a connection between the at least one strand and the at least one interlock portion;

a hanging hole in said at least one interlock portion positioned opposite from said at least one strand.

46. (New) An apparatus according to claim 45 and wherein:
the first locking slot has a first necked down portion between the first enlarged opening and the first reduced opening;
the second locking slot has a second necked down portion between the second enlarged opening and the second reduced opening;
said first necked down portion engages the strand tighter than said second necked down portion engages the strand.

47. (New) An apparatus according to claim 45 and further comprising a handle connected to said at least one interlock portion opposite from said at least one strand.

48. (New) An apparatus according to claim 45 and further comprising a tool holder connected to said at least one interlock portion for holding a tool.